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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/804,579	03/19/2004	Kenny Jou	174847-600001	7292

34026 7590 05/25/2007

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EXAMINER
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KINDRED, ALFORD W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2163

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05/25/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/804,579	<b>Applicant(s)</b> JOU, KENNY	
	<b>Examiner</b> Alford W. Kindred	<b>Art Unit</b> 2163	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 and 26-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 and 26-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/6/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***Detailed Action***

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendment, filed on 03/05/07.

This action is made final.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-23 and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cane, US# 2004/0153514.

As per claims 1 and 13-14, Crane teaches “a user profile database comprising a plurality of personal profiles, wherein each respective personal profile in said plurality of personal profiles corresponds to a user in a computerized social network” (see paragraph [0084]) “each respective personal profile in said plurality of personal profiles includes an identity of at least one user other than the user represented by the respective personal profile; and each respective personal profile in said plurality of personal profiles includes a capability to organize each said at least one user into a plurality of groups associated with the user corresponding to the respective personal profile” (see paragraph [0084] and [0102]) “a social networking module for supporting

said computerized social network, wherein said social networking module further comprises a friend access routine that includes: instructions for receiving a request from a first user to access users in the personal profile of a second user; and instructions for determining which of the users in the personal profile of the second user can be accessed by the first user” (see paragraph [0110] and [0113]).

As per claim 2, Crane teaches “instructions for selecting a group in the personal profile of the second user; (B) instructions for determining whether said group selected by an instance of the instructions for selecting is a private group or a public group, wherein when said group is a public group, said group is added to an accessible group array, and when said group is a private group, said instructions for determining further comprise instructions for determining whether said first user is a member of said private group and wherein, when said first user is a member of said private group, said group is added to said accessible group array” (see paragraph [0134] and [0138]-[0139]) “when said first user is not a member of said private group, said group is not added to said accessible group array; (C) instructions for repeating instructions (A) and instructions (B) until each group in the personal profile of the second user has been evaluated; and (D) instructions for granting access to users in each of the groups in the accessible group array to said first user” (see paragraph [0182], [0132] and [0134]).

As per claim 3, Crane teaches “instructions for selecting a group G from said accessible group array; (ii) instructions for selecting a user C from the group G selected in the last instance of the instructions for selecting (i); (iii) instructions for determining whether said second user is in a public group in the personal profile associated with

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said user C, wherein when said second user is in a public group defined by the personal profile associated with said user C, said user C is added to an access array, and when said second user is not in a public group defined by the personal profile associated with said user C, said instructions for determining" (see paragraph [0151] and [0161])

"instructions for determining whether said first user and said second user are both in the same private group defined by said user C's personal profile, wherein when said first user and said second user are both in the same private group defined by said user C's personal profile, said user C is added to said access array, and when said first user and said second user are not both in the same private group defined by said user C's personal profile, said user C is not added to said access array; (iv) instructions for repeating said instructions for selecting (ii) and said instructions for determining (iii) until each user in the group G has been considered; (v) instructions for repeating instructions (i) through (iv) until each group G in said accessible group array has been considered; and (vi) instructions for granting said first user access to each user in the access array" (see paragraph [0139] and [0181]-[0182]).

As per claim 4, Crane teaches "wherein a target user has a personal profile defining a public group that includes a bulletin board for sending and receiving messages between users in the public group and wherein said first user cannot review messages in said bulletin board unless said target user is in the access array" (see paragraph [0159] and [0184]).

As per claim 5, Crane teaches "wherein a target user has a personal profile defining a private group that includes a bulletin board for sending and receiving

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messages between users in the public group and wherein said first user cannot review messages in said bulletin board unless said first user is in said private group" (see paragraph [0159] and [0181]).

As per claim 6, Crane teaches "wherein a personal profile in said plurality of personal profiles comprises a photograph album having a plurality of photographs, and wherein each photograph in said plurality of photographs includes an access designation, wherein when the access designation of a photograph in said plurality of photographs is in a first setting, each user of the computerized social network can access said photograph; and when the access designation of a photograph in said plurality of photographs is in a second setting, a user of the computerized social network cannot access said photograph unless said user is a member of a group, defined by said profile, that has access privilege to said photograph when the access designation of said photograph is in said second setting" (see paragraph [0151], [0161] and [0202]).

As per claim 7, Crane teaches "wherein a target user has a personal profile including one or more user comments posted by users within one or more groups defines by said personal profile and wherein said first user cannot review said one or more user comments unless said target user is in the access array" (see paragraph [0151] and [0157]).

As per claim 8, Crane teaches "wherein a target user has a personal profile including a personal journal for posting journal entries written by said target user, and wherein said first user cannot review said personal journal unless said target user is in

the access array" (see paragraph [0102] and [0153]-[0154]).

As per claim 9, Crane teaches "wherein the user C has a personal profile that includes an ignore list and when said first user is in said ignore list, said user C is not added to said access array regardless of whether said second user is in a public group defined in the personal profile associated with user C and regardless of whether said first user and said second user are in the same private group defined by said user Cs personal profile" (see paragraph [0110] and [0121]).

As per claims 10-11, Crane teaches "wherein a personal profile in said plurality of personal profiles includes a name of the user corresponding to the personal profile" (see paragraph [0102] and [0161]).

As per claim 12, Crane "wherein a personal profile in said plurality of personal profiles includes a password of the user corresponding to the personal profile" (see paragraph [0161] and [0163]).

As per claim 15, Crane teaches "wherein said social networking module further comprises a profile maintenance routine, said profile maintenance routine including instructions for facilitating an update of a personal profile in said plurality of personal profiles by the user corresponding to said personal profile" (see paragraph [0012] and [0113]).

As per claims 16-17 and 19, Crane teaches "wherein said one or more groups includes a public group" (see [0072]).

As per claim 18, Crane teaches "wherein said social networking module further comprises a login routine, said login routine including instructions for allowing a user to

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access the personal profile corresponding to the user in the user profile database" (see paragraph [0068] and [0086]).

As per claim 20, Crane teaches "including instructions for granting access to users of a group in said plurality of groups access to a field in said personal profile when said field has been designated as private" (see paragraph [0113] and [0167]).

As per claims 21 and 23, Crane teaches "wherein the system is a computer, cell phone, or personal digital assistant" (see [0053]).

As per claims 22, this claims is rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-2 and is similarly rejected.

As per claims 26-28, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-3 and are similarly rejected.

### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments filed 3/05/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

--As per applicant's arguments regarding "Crane does not teach or suggest 'instructions for determining which of the users in the personal profile of the second user can be accessed by the first user' . . .", examiner maintains that Crane's teachings of access of profilers in regards to potential match, reads on applicant's claim language above.

--As per applicant's arguments regarding "there is no discussion in the Crane Group Association Function of excluding any of the users in User B's profile from User



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A based on group membership . . . .”, examiner disagrees and maintains that Crane’s teachings of user blocks elements as well as the login process reads on applicant’s claim language regarding excluding users.

***Conclusion***

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

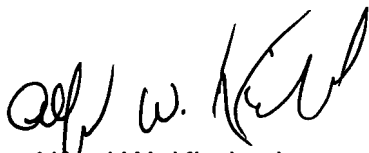
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alford W. Kindred whose telephone number is 571-272-4037. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9:00 am- 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alford W. Kindred', is written over the printed name.

Alford W. Kindred  
Patent Examiner  
Tech Ctr. 2100